

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the present application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1 to 6. (Canceled).

7. (Currently Amended) A fuel injector comprising:
 - a housing;
 - a valve-seat surface;
 - a valve needle;
 - a valve-closure member situated in the housing and cooperating with the valve-seat surface to form a sealing seat;
 - one of a piezoelectric and magnetostrictive actuator which actuates the valve-closure member; and
 - an hydraulic coupler having a downstream recess in which one end of the valve needle is engaged in a pivotable manner;
 - wherein the valve needle is formed in one piece.
8. (Previously Presented) The fuel injector according to claim 7, wherein the recess has a conical shape.
9. (Previously Presented) The fuel injector according to claim 7, wherein the recess widens in a discharge direction.
10. (Previously Presented) The fuel injector according to claim 7, wherein an inflow-side end of the valve needle has a rounded region.
11. (Previously Presented) The fuel injector according to claim 10, wherein the rounded region is in a shape of one of a cap and a hemisphere.
12. (Previously Presented) The fuel injector according to claim 10, wherein the rounded region rests in the recess by way of a circular contact line.

Claim 13. (Canceled).